

## ***About the Presenter***

Dr. Debra A. Rausch-Harris has been working in the field of autism and behavior analysis for over 22 years. She received her early training in behavior analysis at Rutgers University Douglas Developmental Disability Center. Dr. Rausch-Harris then worked with young autistic children at the Eden Institute in Princeton, New Jersey. Following her move to San Diego in 1993, Dr. Rausch-Harris served as behavior specialist for the San Diego Center for Children's School for Autism and the San Diego Regional Center. In 1996, she was selected to be part of a group that trained special education teachers in autism and behavior analysis in preparation to open a new School for Autism in Maui, Hawaii. Dr. Rausch-Harris spent several years consulting intensive home and school-based applied behavior analysis programs for young children with autism and in 2000 started an intensive early intervention applied behavior analysis program for a private organization in San Diego. Additionally, she has served as the autism specialist for several San Diego school districts. Her love of empirically-driven behavioral interventions led her back to the research domain where she spent several years as a research scientist at Laura Schreibman's Autism Research Laboratory at University of California, San Diego examining behaviorally-based language training procedures, specifically Pivotal Response Training (PRT) and the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS). She has presented at many local, state, and national conferences in the field of behavior analysis and autism. Dr. Rausch brings a comprehensive knowledge base that bridges the gap between research and applied clinical practices.

**Debra Rausch**

*Presents:*

## **Advanced PECS Training**



**August 15 & 16, 2011**

*Montana State University Billings  
College of Education Bldg. #122  
Billings, MT*

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**August 18 & 19, 2011**

*Flathead Valley Community College  
Kalispell, MT*

## Overview

This workshop is perfect for anyone who has previously attended the *PECS Basic Training* and is currently implementing PECS. Day One focuses on a review of the PECS training protocol, as well as solutions for common implementation challenges. On Day Two, advanced language skills and enhancing communication across the day are addressed. This day of the workshop applies to all learners, regardless of communicative modality, but is discussed within the framework of PECS. The course also explores specific programming for incorporating PECS throughout the day.

**Day 1:** This day focuses on a thorough review of how to implement each phase of PECS. The most common implementation problems, including discrimination difficulties, and cutting edge problem solving strategies will be addressed. Participants will practice their PECS skills under the guidance of a Pyramid consultant, troubleshoot their personal implementation issues, and watch video examples of PECS lessons. Participants are encouraged to share their own successful and difficult cases. The aim is to respond to the difficult cases in a manner that does not simply “fix” the situation, but results in successful problem solving. Videotapes of participants implementing PECS are welcomed. Please contact Pyramid, Toll Free at 888-732-7462, in advance if you would like your tape reviewed at the training session.

**Day 2:** This day explores incorporation of communication, advanced language and PECS implementation throughout the day. Both receptive and expressive communication skills are explored, with a focus on incorporating these skills into a variety of functional activities. Ideas for advanced language lessons for learners using any modality (i.e. voice output systems, sign language, speech, etc.) are discussed. The day ends with information specifically related to incorporating PECS opportunities throughout the day. Concepts are explored through a combination of videos, discussions and small group activities.

## What You Will Learn:

- Analyze common difficulties with PECS implementation.
- Generate solutions to difficult PECS implementation situations
- Analyze a day for, and learn to program to, incorporate communication opportunities into all activities.
- Implement specific training strategies for teaching advanced language concepts.

## Credits

Thirteen OPI Renewal Units available.

## Workshop Schedule

Both workshops will begin at 8:00 AM and end at 4:00 PM with registration from 7:30-8:00 AM.

## Registration Fee

\$130.00 for individual registration, lunch included, (non-refundable) payable to:

\*Montana Center on Disabilities (Billings)

\*WM-CSPD/MCPS (Missoula)

## Online Registration

### • Billings:

[www.msubillings.edu/cspd/events.htm](http://www.msubillings.edu/cspd/events.htm)

For more information contact:

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### • Missoula:

[www.cspd.net](http://www.cspd.net)

For more information contact:

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